

Spectral order on AW^* -algebras and its preservers

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Abstract

© 2016, Pleiades Publishing, Ltd. We study the spectral order on the set of positive contractions in an AW^* -algebra. We introduce the concept of lattice theoretic center of the resulting spectral lattice and show that it coincides with the algebraic center of the underlying AW^* -algebra A if A is finite. By applying this result we generalize hitherto known characterizations of preservers of the spectral order by showing that any bijection ϕ acting on the spectral lattice of a finite AW^* -algebra that preserves spectral order and orthogonality in both directions is a composition of function calculus and a Jordan $*$ -isomorphism. We show that this result holds in a wide context of all AW^* -algebras provided that ϕ preserves in addition the multiples of unity.

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Keywords

AW^* -algebras, preservers, Spectral order